



City of St. Helens Gazette

Issue 38

www.ci.st-helens.or.us

Winter 2016

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St. Helens Holiday Kick Off

Come celebrate as St. Helens kicks off the holiday season on Saturday, December 10, with the annual St. Helens Police Department Donut Day, Tree Lighting Ceremony and Christmas Ships Parade. New lights and decorations will be added to the Plaza Square, along with a special holiday performance as the community enjoys the launch of the Christmas Ships Parade from the City docks.

Further details on page 12



Turn to page 8 for details on how to support local businesses this holiday season by shopping local in Columbia County!

City of St. Helens

265 Strand Street
PO Box 278
St. Helens, OR 97051
503-397-6272

Crystal Farnsworth
Communications Officer
crystalf@ci.st-helens.or.us

The Gazette is an informational publication released by the City of St. Helens on a quarterly basis. Copies are available at City Hall or online at the City's website: www.ci.st-helens.or.us.

We welcome your feedback. If you have any ideas, comments or questions, please contact Crystal Farnsworth via phone at 503-366-8215 or email at crystalf@ci.st-helens.or.us.

For up-to-the-minute information, follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

Facebook
www.facebook.com/cityofsthelens

Twitter
<https://twitter.com/sthelens>

Have you signed up for our monthly e-Newsletter yet? Take a peek and sign up on our website at www.ci.st-helens.or.us/newsletters.

Business Licenses Renewals for 2017

St. Helens business license renewal letters for the 2017 calendar year were mailed in October. Businesses have until December 31 to return their renewal application and licensing fee to City Hall. Applications must be signed and dated to be considered complete. Business licenses cannot be processed until both the signed application and licensing fee are submitted.

Be sure to carefully review your application to ensure that all information is up-to-date. Cross through any incorrect information and provide the updated information when returning the application to City Hall.

If you have any questions about your business license, please contact Communications Officer Crystal Farnsworth at 503-366-8215 or crystalf@ci.st-helens.or.us.

Columbia County's Safe Disposal of Household Sharps



Starting Monday October 3, 2016

INTRODUCING Columbia County's Sharps Container Exchange Program

If you use sharps at home follow these easy steps to utilize the sharps container exchange program

- 1. Enroll** at the Columbia County Transfer Station Scale House (1601 Railroad Avenue; St Helens, OR) for **just \$5** per container, and get a new sharps disposal container at no cost each time you submit a full one for proper disposal.
- 2. Bring** your full sharps container to the **Columbia County Transfer Station Scale House (1601 Railroad Avenue, St Helens)** between **8am-5pm, Monday—Saturday** for proper disposal.
- 3. Receive** a new empty container at no cost.



Columbia County Solid Waste Program
230 Strand Street;
St Helens, OR 97051
503-397-7259

From the Desk of Mayor Randy Peterson



After 28 years on the St. Helens City Council with the past 14 of those years as Mayor, my service tenure is now in sight. As 2016 closes, I will

be leaving the City Council but not going too far, so you may still see me around town. It has been an honor to serve the St. Helens Community all these years, and though we have faced many issues, I have always strived to make decisions in the best interest of our community.

In my service to the community we have faced many complex and difficult issues, but none as important as the redevelopment of our waterfront. We are at a critical juncture in defining the City's future. The Boise mills are gone, and the City's acquisition and redevelopment opportunities of these waterfront properties offers a chance-in-a-lifetime to ensure a bright future for our community.

The waterfront redevelopment goals from the onset have been to ensure public access to the waterfront, connect transportation systems (roads, sidewalks, parks and trails), and provide a platform for sustainable economic development.

Funding these improvements will be expensive, and in order to implement the desired public improvements, the City Council is currently considering various funding strategies. Some of these strategies include exploring tax increment financing through an Urban Renewal Plan. Urban Renewal Plans are utilized by many communities across Oregon, and those agencies with specific investment strategies have seen excellent results. We are also investigating the potential repurposing of the City's wastewater lagoon in order to expand the City's waterfront redevelopment opportunity. The current wastewater lagoon, without

pulp production, is many times larger than our needs. Filling the lagoon would create additional land and, depending upon the source, significant revenue opportunity. Our preliminary research indicates a strong market demand for dredge material and other sediments from around the region sufficient in volume to fill the lagoon. In order for this project to be economically viable, it must be revenue positive. The revenue potential for filling the lagoon is significant, which could both pay to fill this large hole in the City's waterfront and support the redevelopment cost. This is an exciting opportunity and we will be continuing a thorough feasibility investigation to ensure the project is both safe and a good fit for our community.

Having served in the position of mayor, I can attest firsthand that we have a collaborative City Council; competent, professional and dedicated staff; and a great team of boards, committees and consultants advising the City Council in their decision-making processes. The City values community input and has been recognized for Good Governance by the League of Oregon Cities for extensive community engagement efforts. I look forward to the continued open, transparent and collaborative decision making process embraced by the City leadership.

I would further like to welcome new Mayor-Elect Rick Scholl and wish him all the best as he familiarizes himself with the administrative operations of the City and becomes part of the City Council leadership.

As we reflect on the Thanksgiving celebrations with family and look toward the Christmas and holiday season, I am reminded of the many things we have to be thankful for as a community. Each year, many community members donate

countless hours to serving on boards, commissions and organizations; assisting and running successful community events; and launching fundraisers in response to the needs of our community. I am grateful for their service and hope that you will join me in taking a moment to share your thanks with these individuals when you see them around town.

The City has seven boards and commissions that deal with a range of topics. These committees are manned by St. Helens community members that lend their expertise and invest their interests in tangible ways that make St. Helens a better place to live and work. Thank you to the members of the following governing and advisory boards for the donation of your time and knowledge this past year: the St. Helens Arts and Cultural Commission, Bicycle and Pedestrian Commission, Budget Committee, Library Board, Parks Commission, Planning Commission and Youth Council.

As we look toward the new year, we will be met with a new set of opportunities and challenges. In thinking of your New Year's Resolutions, I encourage you to consider volunteering your time in making the St. Helens community a more vibrant, inviting place to call home. In addition to serving on a City board or commission, there are opportunities to serve with other community organization such as the St. Helens Economic Development Corporation or for events such as 13 Nights on the River.

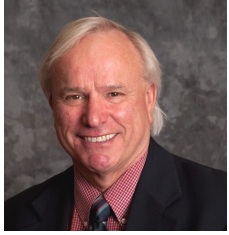
I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season and the very best for the coming new year.

Sincerely,
Mayor Randy Peterson

St. Helens City Council and staff wish the St. Helens community a happy and safe holiday season!

City offices will be closed December 23-26. This includes City Hall, the City Shops, St. Helens Public Library and the Police Department's Admin Office.

From the Desk of the City Council



Doug Morten

As Council President, I would like to thank our outgoing mayor, Randy Peterson, for his past dedicated

service to the city. He served as a councilman for 14 years and was elected mayor for the past 14 years. His experience, wisdom and fairness with city matters will absolutely be missed.

Also, I welcome our new mayor elect, Rick Scholl, to the council. He brings a spark of enthusiasm and eagerness to our team. I anticipate a good working relationship with Rick as he learns the ropes of city government and realizes his potential for the role of mayor.

Over the past election cycles, the council has proven to be an effective team. Last year, the League of Oregon Cities presented the Good Governance Award to St. Helens for outstanding achievement in visioning, promoting and developing the plan for the Riverfront District. This impressive award is the state's highest honor for excellence in good governing. It was accomplished by soliciting our citizens with their many ideas and concepts.

Carefully our citizen committees established a strong mission with core values, goals and specified outcomes. The council encouraged citizen input throughout the entire process and insisted on openness and transparency.

We now have a rough draft plan that balances the sustainability aspects of livability and culture, a healthy environment with, most importantly, a thriving commercial district.

We accomplished so very much in such a short time. The most effective tools were our ears. We LISTENED.

Soon developers, builders and investors will be responding to our requests for proposals and our Riverfront District will become a reality. We can all be proud that it was our community that shaped the future of our waterfront. You had the great ideas that manifested into a very exciting plan. Without your involvement, the City would have never been recognized for outstanding governance. Thank you for your input!



Keith Locke

Merry Christmas to all! I wish you a truly wonderful holiday season. I would like to thank you for re-

electing me as your City Councilor. We are welcoming a new mayor, Rick Scholl, and we are looking forward to some new, fresh ideas and working together. I would like to thank Randy for his many years of service to the city. I am sure he will take advantage of the time for more hunting and fishing trips. Good luck in the future.

The Christmas Ships will be returning to St. Helens on December 10. It is so much fun to gather along the riverfront and watch the various boats that are decorated with lights. We will also be lighting the Christmas tree in the plaza during the evening on the 10th.

I am once again becoming involved with 13 Nights on the River. We all enjoy our wonderful FREE concerts every Thursday night during the summer. Now is the time to start the process of getting ready for our 13th year! I want to thank all the volunteers who have helped over the years for their time and energy. Without true community spirit, this great event cannot continue. Your HELP is needed with all of the various activities involved with running this event. Please come and learn new skills or share the skills you have. Skilled individuals that are needed: Administration, Procuring Sponsorships, Accounting, Marketing, Scheduling, Brochures, Posters, Editing, Cleanup, Setup, Public Speaking, Bartenders, Sound Technicians and Security. Any time you can volunteer is a big help whether a few hours, a few days or the entire 13 Nights season. The more the merrier. More people to share the workload makes this a fun concert series. Come have fun, help the community, and be part of the 13 Nights family. I would like to set up a meeting for the 2017 13 Nights on the River concert series. Leave a message at City Hall or call my cell phone (503-369-0575) or email me at keithlocke@comcast.net if you are interested.

Keith Locke, Police Commissioner



Ginny Carlson

Greetings this holiday season. I would like to thank Mayor Randy Peterson for his service to this

community and his patience the past four years as I have served with him. His community insight and institutional knowledge will be missed. I wish him and his family a wonderful retirement, long overdue and well deserved.

A warm welcome to Mayor Elect Rick Scholl. It is nice to see the engagement that it takes to run a campaign with honest, open communication that resonates with voters. I am excited to get to know Rick and his visions for the city. Fresh ideas and a new perspective are a good thing. I'm glad to have him aboard.

It has been a busy four years on council, with corridor planning, visioning, waterfront planning and a water treatment study. Sometimes it can be daunting to follow. Thankfully, the community has engaged in each step along the way and we have identified keystones such as public access, parks, maintaining our rural community charm, and being mindful of our resources and local business partners. We still have a long road to go, but I hope I can count on you to stick it out, be loud when needed, and be patient when that is called for as well. We won't get everything we want, but hopefully we can advocate and champion as much as the space allows.

I am excited about the development of the Youth Council. It is great to see them reach new levels of engagement. This year, they held a dance, sold reflectors, and are now taking on some community events with Halloween, Christmas Ships and holiday bazaars.

Thank you to everyone who has worked so hard this year to make all the wonderful family events a reality. People gave up their weekends and evenings to build a better community. It is thankless, hard work, but I, for one, appreciate their efforts and look forward to serving another four years on the greatest community team I could ever wish for.



Susan Conn

Social media is like the old-fashioned game of “Telephone.” A message is whispered into the ear of the first person in line, to be

passed to each person in a long line. The object is to convey the original message as accurately as possible. I have yet to see a winner in this game, as the message changes and morphs as it is passed from person to person. In the game, the resulting thoroughly-botched messages result in hilarity and laughter. If only that were the case with social media.

Facebook and other online media are a great way to communicate – with limitations. Posts are not accompanied by facial expressions, voice modulation or other subtleties of actual speech, so can be (and often are) misunderstood or colored by the reader’s opinions or views. Intent can be misunderstood and a grain of truth in a post can be lost in the reactions of others who draw from a third-hand source, commenting on the original post with their own perceptions.

A great place for posting pictures and news of pets and family, social media needs to be taken with a grain of salt. Everything posted on the internet is not true, nor are all sources reliable. Unfortunately, many people fail to go to the actual source for answers before posting something based strictly on emotional reaction or pseudo facts from unverified sources.

I’d like to propose that we all work on communicating more clearly. If you have a question, please pick up a phone and ask someone who knows the facts, someone involved in the process, or better yet, arrange a face-to-face conversation. Please don’t just throw it out there on Facebook and think the responses you get are accurate. They may be, but chances are just as good that they’re not.

I hope that post-election we can all agree to work together toward making our community better – set a goal in working toward the benefit of all, not just some. If the recent election has taught us nothing else, it’s that there is a diversity of opinion. The trick to expressing an opinion is to remember that everyone has one and that if you want others to respect yours, you need to show that same respect for theirs. But remember, opinion is not fact. I would like to avoid miscommunication and focus on improving communication to be more accurate. A first step toward doing so might be to think about how we all define “common good.” Are you in?

Waterfront Redevelopment & Lagoon Options



On October 12, the City held an Open House and Celebration for the completion of the Environmental Protection Agency’s Area-Wide Planning Grant Program. This grant was part of the next planning phase for the St. Helens waterfront property.

If you missed the open house or would like to browse any of the documents associated with the project, the City has a webpage dedicated to the project. Visit www.ci.st-helens.or.us/planning/page/waterfront-redevelopment-project to learn the history of the project, watch videos, look at pictures and drawings, and read the reports and presentations associated with the process.

The web page also has a sub-site dedicated to the options currently being considered for the lagoon site. View frequently asked questions, an informational handout and market analysis. The City is currently exploring options for the site and this phase of the waterfront redevelopment is still very preliminary. Just like the former Veneer site, any lagoon repurposing or redevelopment will go through a planning process that will involve many opportunities for community participation and feedback.

For more information, contact City Administrator John Walsh at jwalsh@ci.st-helens.or.us or 503-366-8211.

City Council Contacts and Assignments

Randy Peterson, Mayor randyp@ci.st-helens.or.us
Administration Department, Communications

Doug Morten, Council President doug@ci.st-helens.or.us
Public Works Department, Parks Commission, Columbia County Economic Team, Regional Organized Criminal Narcotics Team (Alternate), St. Helens Economic Development Corp. (Alternate)

Keith Locke, Councilor keithl@ci.st-helens.or.us
Police Department, Community Development Department, Builders Review Board, Bicycle & Pedestrian Commission, Regional Organized Criminal Narcotics Team, Columbia Pacific Economic Development District (Alternate), St. Helens Youth Council

Susan Conn, Councilor susanc@ci.st-helens.or.us
Library Department, Arts & Cultural Commission, Library Board, Columbia Pacific Economic Development District, St. Helens Economic Development Corp., St. Helens Community Foundation

Ginny Carlson, Councilor ginny@ci.st-helens.or.us
Planning Commission, St. Helens Youth Council



Winter Preparedness

Winter Storm Tips

1. Minimize the impact of rainwater and melting snow by clearing walkways and keeping leaf piles out of the street and storm drains. Leaf disposal is a private responsibility. Just like lawn clippings, leaves should be disposed of in yard debris bins for pick up by your garbage hauling service.
2. If you are new to St. Helens and living in an older neighborhood or home, you may not be aware of your property's potential for flooding. You may contact the City's Engineering Department for an assessment of your risk. Call 503-397-6272.
3. To report a backed up sewer line, flooding, downed trees or debris within city limits, call the Public Works Department at 503-397-3532 during normal business hours. To report a problem outside city limits or during hours when Public Works is closed, call 503-397-1521 (Columbia non-emergency dispatch).
4. Free sand bags can be picked up on the corner of Deer Island Road and Oregon Street across from the Transit Center anytime there is significant potential for flooding.
5. To report a power outage, call Columbia River PUD at 503-397-1844.
6. Keep snow from piling up on flat rooftops. In the event of accumulation, heavy snow load can cause structural failure.
7. Listen for unusual sounds that might indicate moving debris, such as trees cracking or boulders knocking together. A trickle of falling mud or debris may precede larger landslides. If you think there is danger of a landslide, leave immediately.
8. If water in a river or stream suddenly turns muddy or the amount of water flowing suddenly decreases or increases, this is a warning that the flow has been affected upstream. You should immediately leave the area in case a debris flow comes downstream.
9. Assume highways are not safe. Be alert when driving, especially at night. Don't overdrive your headlights. It should take your car four seconds to catch up to the spot where your low beams were originally at. Embankments along road sides may fail, sending rock and debris onto the road.
10. Avoid contact with surface ponding or flood water of any kind during a storm. The water can contain contaminants from surface or subsurface materials.
11. Remember to check on your elderly or disabled neighbors, friends and family.
12. Visit www.ready.gov/winter-weather for more tips on what to do before, during and after a snowstorm or extreme cold.

Winterizing Tips for Cold Weather

With winter quickly approaching, freezing weather brings the possibility of broken pipes and fittings to St. Helens residents. The St. Helens Public Works Department would like to remind residents of these useful winterizing tips for a worry-free winter season:

- Leave cupboard doors open under sinks if plumbing is on outside walls. This allows pipes to get more heat.
- When the weather dips below freezing, let inside faucets run slightly to keep water moving in pipes.
- Shut off and drain outdoor irrigation systems during the winter months.
- Put covers on outdoor hose bibs and insulate any exposed pipes.
- Plug foundation vents to prevent pipes under the house from freezing.
- If you go on vacation, leave the thermostat set to at least 55 degrees.

Prevent House Fires

Remember to Examine Clothes Dryer Ducts

Overheated clothes dryers are associated with a large number of house fires each year. Several of these fires lead to serious injury, and even death. Fires can occur when lint builds up in the dryer or in the exhaust duct. Lint can block the flow of air, cause excessive heat build-up, and result in a fire in some dryers.

Clean the lint screen/filter before or after drying each load of clothes. If clothing is still damp at the end of a typical drying cycle or drying requires longer time than normal, this may be a sign that the lint screen or the exhaust duct is blocked.

Clean the dryer vent and exhaust duct periodically. Check the outside dryer vent while the dryer is operating to make sure exhaust air is escaping. If it is not, the vent or the exhaust duct may be blocked. To remove a blockage in the exhaust path, it may be necessary to disconnect the exhaust duct from the dryer. Remember to reconnect the ducting to the dryer and outside vent before using the dryer again.

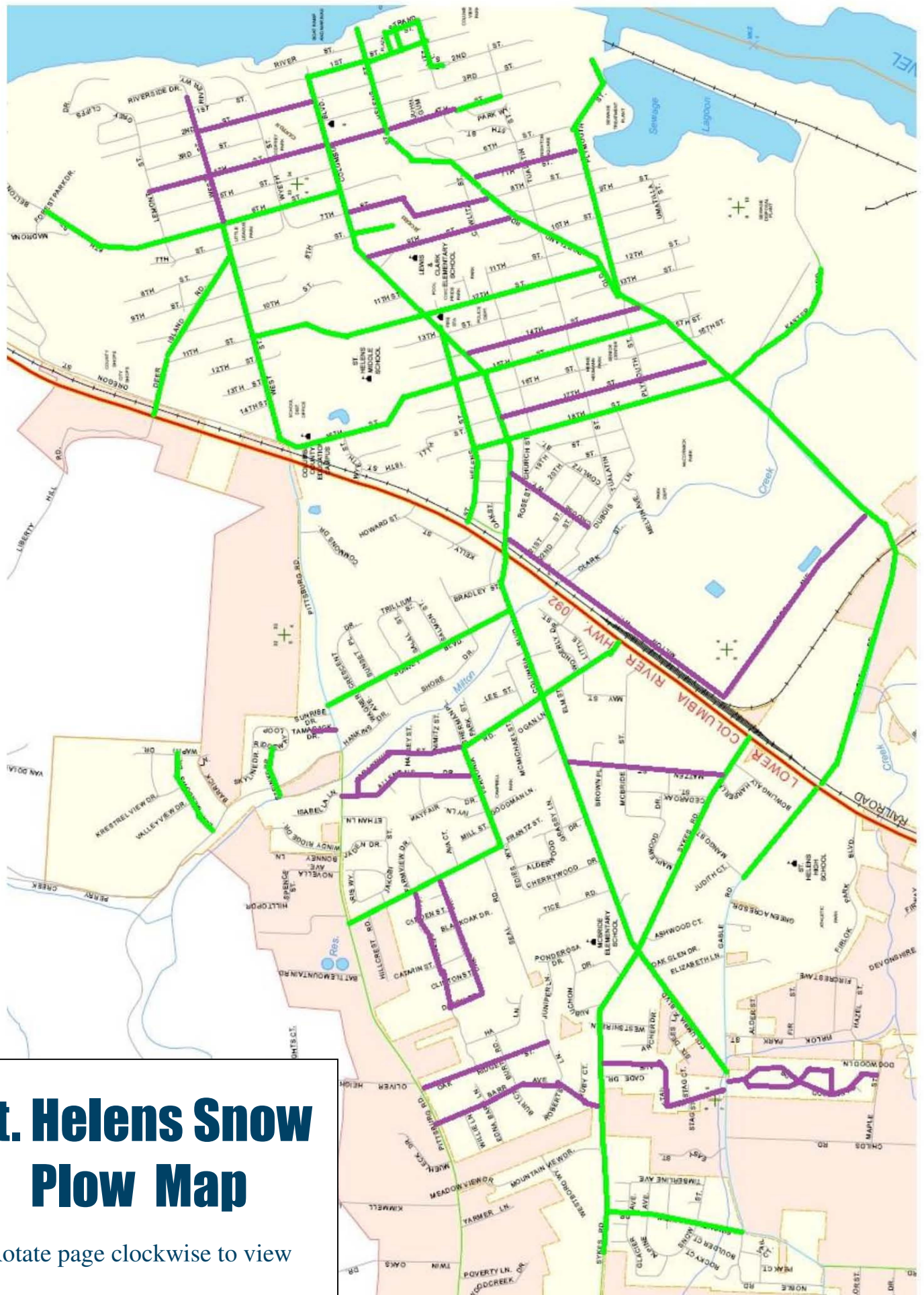
Clean behind the dryer, where lint can build up. Have a qualified service person clean the interior of the dryer chassis periodically to minimize the amount of lint accumulation. Keep the area around the dryer clean and free of clutter.

Secondary

Primary

St. Helens Snow Plow Map

Rotate page clockwise to view





Keep it Local Columbia County Partners with County Chambers, Columbia County Economic Team and SHEDCO to Promote Shopping Local this Holiday Season

Here's how the Catch the Spirit Campaign works:

It's easy! Before you head out the door:

- Find local businesses at keepitlocalcc.com (or check out the list on page 9)
- Download Spirit Card or pick up pre-printed copies at St. Helens City Hall
- Shop at Columbia County businesses from November 19 through December 28! For each \$10 you spend at a participating local business, you get a box checked off on your Spirit Card.

Once 20 boxes are marked off, submit your Spirit Card in your hometown to be entered for the Community Prize. Drop your cards off by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, December 28.

Drop Off Locations

Clatskanie: Clatskanie PUD

Rainier: Rainier City Hall

Scappoose: Grocery Outlet

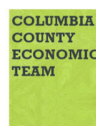
St. Helens: St. Helens City Hall or The Chronicle

Vernonia: Wauna Federal Credit Union

The Prizes:

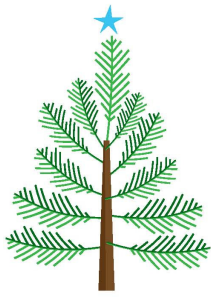
Three \$50 gift certificate winners will be drawn in each city. All participants will also be automatically entered in the Columbia County Prize Drawing (to be drawn on January 4) for a prize valued at \$100.00.

Thank you for participating! By supporting your local businesses, you help ensure local jobs, businesses and vibrant communities here in Columbia County. Unique gifts and great customer service are right at your fingertips. Remember that many local businesses also offer gift certificates.



Vernonia Area
Chamber of Commerce





"Spirit Cards"

Participating Businesses

Catch the Holiday Spirit :

Scappoose

All About Pets, LLC
Digital Guru
Flora Designs
Grocery Outlet
Preheim Business Center
Richardson's Furniture Store
Sunsations Tanning & Boutique
Zingti Massage
Wauna Federal Credit Union

St. Helens

2Cs Vendor Mall
Bella Maison
El Tapatio
Dianna's Formal Affair
Hagz Bagz & The Hutch
Richardson's Furniture Store
Sunshine Pizza
Tea Time
Zingti Massage
Woodland Cottage
Wauna Federal Credit Union

Clatskanie

Ace & Hi- School Pharmacy
Clatskanie Mini Storage
Clatskanie PUD
Colvin's Pub & Grill
Conestoga Pub & Grill
Discounts & Deals
Flowers 'N Fluff
The Hair Place
Hidden Treasures
In & Out Gardening
Ixtapa
KP's Family Farm
Napa Auto Parts
Singing Dog Jewelry
Wauna Federal Credit Union

Rainier

Oregon Indoor Organics
Rainier Appliance & Repair
Rainier Liquor Store

Vernonia

Creatures Pet Shop
Mariolinos Pizza & Grill
Vernonia Florist
Vernonia Hardware & Liquor Store
Wauna Federal Credit Union

St. Helens Public Library

375 S. 18th Street
St. Helens, OR 97051
503-397-4544

HOURS

Mon. through Thurs.: 10 a.m.—7 p.m.
Friday: 10 a.m.—5 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m.—2 p.m.
Sunday: Closed



Oregon Humanities Conversation Projects on Homelessness, Disability

Homeless in the Land of Plenty

Thursday, January 19, 7 p.m.



Home is one of the most intimate places we can know. It's a place that provides for and shapes our expression of security, identity, and even play. But an estimated 100 million people around the world lack shelter altogether, and as many as one billion lack adequate permanent housing. In the US, families with

children are the fastest-growing segment of the homeless population. How does homelessness affect the lives of all people within a community? What does it mean for there to be masses of people who are not adequately housed?

This is the focus of "Homeless in the Land of Plenty," a free conversation with Ryan Stroud on January 19 at 7 p.m. at the St. Helens Public Library.

Stroud is a storyteller and the founder and director of CommuniTalks, an applied storytelling project that leverages personal narrative to empower individual and social change. He holds an MS in conflict resolution and a BA in communication from Portland State University, and a Diploma with Honors in Mandarin Chinese from the Defense Language Institute. In 2013, he was awarded a Collaborative Governance Service Award from the National Policy Consensus Center for his facilitation work in the field of public policy.

Understanding Disability: Family and Community Stories

Thursday, March 16, 7 p.m.

The disability community accounts for 12 percent of the US population and almost 14 percent of the population of Oregon. All Oregonians are influenced by the disability community, whether as individuals with a disability or as family members, friends, or allies of someone with a disability.

This is the focus of "Understanding Disability: Family and Community Stories," a free conversation with Jill Crawford Hurt on March 16 at 7 p.m. at the St. Helens Public Library. Participants in this conversation will look at what they know of the stories of their own family, friends, and colleagues and consider the sources of their perspectives. Whether these stories contain themes of pride, oppression, resistance, failure, or success, they offer us an opportunity to rethink our perceptions.

Hurt is a proud member of the disability community. As the second of three generations to share a hereditary neuropathy, she devotes her personal and professional life to disability advocacy. She holds a master of rehabilitation administration degree from the University of San Francisco. Her professional experience includes facilitating community advocacy and youth peer support activities and serving as director of a parent advocacy organization.



St. Helens Public Library strives to be a place where intelligent conversation and debate happen and potentially inspire positive change.

Through the Conversation Project, Oregon Humanities offers free programs that engage community members in thoughtful, challenging conversations about ideas critical to our daily lives and our state's future.

Oregon Humanities (921 SW Washington, Suite 150; Portland, OR 97205) connects Oregonians to ideas that change lives and transform communities. More information about Oregon Humanities' programs and publications, which include the Conversation Project, Think & Drink, Humanity in Perspective, Idea Lab, Public Program Grants, and Oregon Humanities magazine, can be found at oregonhumanities.org. Oregon Humanities is an independent, nonprofit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities and a partner of the Oregon Cultural Trust.

**Oregon
Humanities**

Library Youth Events

December Storytimes

NOTE: Due to the holidays, there will be no storytimes from December 19-30.

- Baby Lapsit (six months to two years), Tuesdays at 10:15 a.m.
- Toddler Time (two to three years), Wednesdays at 11:15 a.m.
- Preschool Storytime (three to five years), Thursdays at 11:15 a.m.

January to March Story Times

NOTE: No storytimes March 27-31.

- Baby Storytime (six months to two years), Tuesdays at 10:15 a.m.
- Toddler Storytime (two to three years), Wednesdays at 11:15 a.m.
- Preschool Storytime (three to five years), Thursdays at 11:15 a.m.

Make It!

Selected Mondays: 1/9, 1/30, 2/13, 2/27, 3/13, 3/20 at 4 p.m.

Ages 6-12. Join the maker movement at the Library! Each week we'll make something cool together, whether it's LEGO creations, robots, jewelry, race cars, origami, or something else. Contact the Library for details on specific projects for each session. Registration required: call 503-397-4544 to sign up.

Teen Babysitting Training

Wednesday, February 1, 4-6:30 p.m.

Ages 12-18. Training and certification in the use of First Aid & CPR, completion of the Babysitter Lessons And Safety Training (BLAST) software, and a crash course in the early literacy ideas you'll need to best care for children. Please call 503-397-4544 to register for this program; there are 12 spots available.

March Reading Madness!

March; all day, every day

Your favorite children's book characters go head-to-head in a bracket-style tournament! There'll be new matchups each week, so come in and cast your vote to determine the victor. All ages.

New Microfilm Machine

The St. Helens Public Library installed a new microfilm machine in October 2016 thanks to a grant from the Columbia County Cultural Coalition with additional funding provided by the Friends of the St. Helens Public Library and the City of St. Helens.

The previous machine, which was purchased by the Friends of the St. Helens Public Library in 1999, no longer held focus, had uneven lighting, and could not enlarge or save documents. The new machine is a ScanPro1100 microfilm reader, printer and scanner. Library patrons can take advantage of the machine's auto-focus capability, Optical Character Recognition (OCR) software, the option to save documents to a USB device, and built-in enlargement, reduction, and other image enhancement features. Microfilm that was nearly unreadable due to faint newsprint is now legible through image darkening.

The new microfilm machine is available for use at the St. Helens Public Library during open hours: Monday to Thursday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Collage and Paints for Adults



Join us on Tuesday, January 31, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. for an evening of art for adults led by local artist, Barbara Lines. She will be describing the Wabi-Sabi method of self-exploratory art with collage and paints. The exciting thing about Wabi-Sabi is that it means embracing imperfection and celebrating happy accidents, so there are no mistakes and no pressure: only successful art.

The class is limited to 18 participants. Pre-registration is required and opens December 15. To pre-register, call the Library at 503-397-4544. Participants are encouraged to bring their own items for use in their collage such as photos, quotes and mementos.

Artists Needed for Recycled Book Art Show

Calling all artists! The Friends of the St. Helens Public Library are sponsoring the Second Annual Recycled Book Art Show which will be exhibited at the Library throughout the month of February 2017.

Recycled Art includes collage, assemblages, wall hangings, sculpture, and other 2- or 3-dimensional artwork. We are also accepting functional designs, which include pieces that serve practical functions in the household, business or outdoor setting; for example, furniture, light fixtures, birdhouses, etc.

Keeping the showcase and wall space of the library in mind, we would like to suggest you submit a reasonably sized art piece. Content should be geared toward exhibition suitable for a public space.

Thanks to the Friends of the St. Helens Public Library, there are books available for sale at very reasonable prices. These are located on the book sale shelves as you enter the library. There are no free books for this purpose this year.

Deadline: Art works will be accepted at the St. Helens Public Library, 375 S. 18th Street, St. Helens, on Saturday, January 28, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Submission forms will be available when you turn in your work. If you need more information, please contact Barbara Weaving Lines at 503-397-9978.



St. Helens Police Department Donut Day



The St. Helens Police Department's annual Donut Day benefiting the Columbia Pacific Food Bank is Saturday, December 10. Starting at 7 a.m., visit the Police Station at 150 S. 13th Street and trade your non-perishable food items for fresh Krispy Kreme donuts. One can of food can be traded for one donut, up to two dozen donuts per family. The Police Department will have approximately 300 dozen donuts on hand and will stay open until all the donuts are gone.

Be sure to bring your camera for family pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Community Tree Lighting



Come to the Plaza Square at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, December 10 as Santa and Mrs. Claus arrive and help light the community Christmas Tree. Bring your camera. After the tree lighting, kids can line up for Christmas wishes and pictures with Santa. There will also be live music by David Lee and free hot cocoa to enjoy.

Christmas Ships Parade



After the Community Tree Lighting, make your way down to the City docks as the 2016 Christmas Ships Parade launches from the docks at 6 p.m. on Saturday, December 10.

This year, the Wauna Credit Union tent will be set up on the waterfront property. Visit the tent to enjoy live Christmas music as you watch the parade up close.

Public Meetings Calendar

December

12/5	Youth Council	7 pm
12/7	City Council Work Session	1 pm
	City Council Regular Session	7 pm
12/12	Parks Commission	4 pm
12/13	Planning Commission	7 pm
12/13	Library Board (Columbia Center)	7:15 pm
12/19	Youth Council	7 pm
12/20	Arts & Cultural Commission	CANCELLED
12/21	City Council Work Session	1 pm
	City Council Regular Session	7 pm
12/29	Bike & Pedestrian Commission	6:30 pm

January

1/2	Youth Council	7 pm
1/4	City Council Work Session	1 pm
	City Council Regular Session	7 pm
1/10	Planning Commission	7 pm
1/16	Youth Council	7 pm
1/17	Library Board (Columbia Center)	7:15 pm
1/18	City Council Work Session	1 pm
	City Council Regular Session	7 pm
1/24	Arts & Cultural Commission	6:30 pm
1/30	Youth Council	7 pm

February

2/1	City Council Work Session	1 pm
	City Council Regular Session	7 pm
2/13	Parks Commission	4 pm
2/13	Youth Council	7 pm
2/14	Planning Commission	7 pm
2/15	City Council Work Session	1 pm
	City Council Regular Session	7 pm
2/21	Library Board (Columbia Center)	7:15 pm
2/23	Bicycle & Pedestrian Commission	6:30 pm
2/27	Youth Council	7 pm
2/28	Arts & Cultural Commission	6:30 pm

Meeting agendas, packets and minutes, along with any changes, are available to view on the City's website at www.ci.st-helens.or.us. Public Meetings are broadcast live on Comcast Channel 29.